VERSION SHOWING MARKED-UP CHANGES

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 13, paragraph 3 (starting at line 21) and bridging page 14), please delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

-- Top Alerts represent the most timely and relevant alerts and can be displayed at the top of the page. In one embodiment, Top Alerts can appear for 48 hours after firing, after which they will be moved to their regular category displayed below the Top Alerts display area. In addition to time limits on Top Alerts, an alert can be made to expire according to a predefined expiration date after it is moved to its regular category. News Alerts represent information appearing in published materials concerning an investment. Research alerts indicate specific financial information that is more likely to be understood by sophisticated investors. For example, "The price-earnings (P/E) ratio for MSFT has been greater than two times its average next year's projected earnings growth rate. For small and mid-cap stocks in particular, this is generally considered as a sign that a company may be overvalued." --

Page 14, paragraph 1 (starting at line 2), delete in its entirety and replace with the following:

-- Alerts may include a date indicator within the preformatted alert text (e.g., "On 12/23/98 Microsoft reached a new high of $142.88"). Alternatively, dates can be displayed in a column to the left of the alerts[, as shown in FIGS 7 and 8]. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims were amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented method of providing investment information to a ~~computer~~ user of a first computer, comprising the steps of:

(1) receiving in a second computer a plurality of data feeds each including information concerning a plurality of investments;

(2) parsing each of the plurality of data feeds to extract quantitative data items for each of the plurality of investments;

(3) comparing each extracted quantitative data item to one of a plurality of triggers, each trigger comprising an association between a predefined criterion of interest, specified by a person

other than the ~~computer~~ user of the first computer, and one of the extracted quantitative data items and, if the comparison indicates a match, setting a corresponding alert for that trigger; and

(4) displaying on a ~~computer~~ screen associated with the first computer ~~user~~ one or more alerts that have been set for an investment selected by the ~~computer~~ user of the first computer, wherein at least some of the alerts belong to a category reserved for most timely and relevant alerts, the at least some of the alerts being displayed in a manner indicating their membership in the category.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein step (4) comprises the step of displaying a plurality of alerts grouped into a plurality of separate categories each displayed in a different location on the ~~computer~~ screen.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein step (4) comprises the step of displaying the one or more alerts on a web page using an Internet web browser, wherein the alerts are displayed ~~immediately~~ in response to the investment selection made by the user.

16. (Amended) A method of displaying investment information, comprising the steps of:

(1) specifying on a computer display an investment of interest;

(2) retrieving from a remote computer a collection of one or more investment alerts that are currently true for the investment specified in step (1), wherein the investment alerts are generated from a plurality of data sources that report quantitative and nonquantitative investment information and reflect that certain predefined criteria have been satisfied for the investment of interest; and

(3) displaying the one or more investment alerts on the computer display wherein at least some of the alerts belong to a category reserved for most timely and relevant alerts, the at least some of the alerts being displayed in a manner indicating their membership in the category.

23. (Amended) A system for displaying investment information, comprising:

a computer system that receives a plurality of data feeds each including investment information concerning a plurality of investments, the computer system comprising one or more server computers coupled via a network, wherein the one or more server computers perform the steps of:

(1) extracting quantitative and non-quantitative data items for each of the plurality of investments from the plurality of data feeds;

(2) comparing each extracted quantitative and non-quantitative data item to a plurality of alert rules each of which associates a predefined value of interest to one or more of the quantitative and non-quantitative data items;

(3) establishing a truth table indicating which of the plurality of alert rules are true;

(4) checking for a recent firing of an opposite alert rule of one of the alert rules indicated as being true in the truth table;

(5) replacing the opposite alert rule, represented in the truth table, with the one of the alert rules when step (4) determines an existence of the recent firing of the opposite alert rule; and

(~~4~~6) in response to a user request that specifies one or more investments, retrieving from the truth table a list indicating which of the plurality of alert rules for each of the specified investments is true.

New claims 28-32 were added.